

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00958 080111Z

60

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 LOC-01 L-03 CU-04 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SAM-01 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2411

USDOC WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 958

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, KS

SUBJECT: BOOK PIRACY AND COPYRIGHT: VISIT OF LEO ALBERT

REFS: (A) SEOUL 497; (B) STATE 23087

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY IS ARRANGING MEETINGS FOR LEO ALBERT WITH LOCAL INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH COPYRIGHT/BOOK PIRACY ISSUE. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO MONITOR LOCAL MARKETING, LEGAL AND GOVERNMENT POLICY SITUATION. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY IS PLEASED TO LEARN OF FEB. 15-19 VISIT OF LEO ALBERT TO SEOUL AND IS ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS WITH LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES OF U.S. PUBLISHERS, KOREAN PUBLISHING INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES AND ROKG OFFICIALS, INCLUDING KIM, YUNG KWON, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF CULTURE, MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION.

3. EMBOFFS MET WITH SUN B. LEE, RESIDENT MANAGER OF MCGRAW-HILL IN SEOUL, ON JAN. 28 AND LEARNED THAT MCGRAW-HILL HAS DEVELOPED POSITIVE PROGRAM TO COMBAT BOOK PIRATES BY ADOPTING AN "INSTANT WARNING" SYSTEM. UNDER THIS SYSTEM LEE WILL MONITOR OUTPUT OF PIRATES AND REDUCE LOCAL SELLING PRICES OF MCGRAW-HILL'S

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LOW PRICED STUDENT EDITIONS ON SHORT NOTICE BY CREDITING

COMPENSATING REBATES TO ACCOUNTS OF COOPERATING LOCAL BOOKSELLERS. LEE FELT THAT THIS SYSTEM, COMBINED WITH THE VASTLY INCREASED COST AND SCARCITY OF PAPER, WOULD FORCE BOOK PIRATES OUT OF BUSINESS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MCGRAW-HILL'S NEW YORK OFFICE IS OPPOSED TO REPRINTING IN KOREA, AND THAT FIRM WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPLY ITS STUDENT EDITIONS FROM JAPAN.

4. EMBASSY DID NOT HAVE FORMAL ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF KOREAN COPYRIGHT AND BOOK PUBLISHING LAWS AT TIME OF WRITING REFTEL (A), WHICH WAS BASED ON INTERPRETATION FURNISHED BY CULTURE BUREAU DIRECTOR. HE HAD STATED THAT ONLY LOCAL HOLDER OF PUBLISHING RIGHTS COULD FILE FOR COPYRIGHT. WE WILL ASK FOR CLARIFICATION OF THIS POINT DURING ALBERT VISIT, AND WILL ALSO SEEK ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRANSLATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE, IF ANY, IMPLEMENTING ART. 44.

5. WE NOW DO HAVE UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATIONS OF ABOVE LAWS TOGETHER WITH OFFICIAL KOREAN-LANGUAGE VERSION.) PARA. 4 OF REFTEL (A) SHOULD HAVE REFERRED TO ART. 44 AS THE BASIS FOR COPYRIGHT REGISTRATION AND ART. 62 AS THE BASIS FOR LEGAL ACTION FOR INFRINGEMENT.
HABIB

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 07 FEB 1974
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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